

the Bullet



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Serving the Mary Washington Community since 1922

December 6, 2007

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Weekend Weather

Friday

Cloudy

High: 48
Low: 37

Saturday

Partly Cloudy
High: 60
Low: 40

Sunday

Partly Cloudy
High: 66
Low: 49

Frawley Lambastes UMW Board

By KATY BURNELL
News Editor

Ousted UMW President William Frawley says the school's Board of Visitors twice agreed and twice reneged on a promised severance package after he was fired following two drunk-driving arrests in two days last spring.

In a lengthy editorial column, "I Needed Compassion, Not Ostracism," which ran in last Sunday's Washington Post, Frawley was sharply critical of the Board's "hard-edged" response in the wake of the incidents.

Frawley said that he asked the Board for medical leave so that he could seek treatment for a variety of health issues, and for what he said was later diagnosed as life-long chronic depression. The Board rejected his request.

In an e-mail interview Wednesday, Dec. 5, Frawley told The Bullet that he was considering a civil suit against the

school, but he declined to elaborate on a timetable.

"These are matters still under discussion," Frawley said.

The Rector of the Board of Visitors, Bill Poole, who is the only University employee named and quoted in Frawley's column, said "it would be inappropriate" for him or any University official to respond to Frawley's accusations.

"As much as I'd like to comment, I just can't," Poole said.

Poole said that he walked straight to Giant to pick up the early Sunday edition after Acting President Rick Hurley notified him on Saturday. Hurley also declined to comment on the column, saying it was "a personnel issue."

"It's a matter that I don't even want to get into," Hurley said.

Frawley told The Bullet that he has

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Former UMW President, William J. Frawley criticized the University's handling of last spring's DUI incidents.

Melchers Springs A Leak

By JESS PIKE
Staff Writer

On Friday Nov. 2, 40 to 50 gallons of water came pouring out of panels and light fixtures onto the second floor of Melchers Hall.

"It was a big mess," said Jean Dabb, Art and Art History Department chair.

According to Dabb, there were also smaller leaks of water in the stair wells and ceiling tiles throughout Melchers.

Senior Art major, Katelyn Cowen said she was dismayed by the leaks.

"I came into the painting studio to find a puddle of water and a ceiling tile on the ground in front of my painting," she said.

Cowan added that this wasn't the first time she and others in Melchers have had to deal with the water problem.

Beth Wilkins/Bullet

"When we have a steady amount of rain, the ceilings leak in the painting studio and elsewhere," she said, adding that she has had to put a tarp over her painting to protect it from the reoccurring leaks.

Concerns about the leaks on Nov. 2 led the Art Department to call workers at Facilities Services, who they said responded immediately.

According to Gary Hobson, associate director for Capital Outlay, Facilities Services has now taken care of the cracks in the roof responsible for the leaks.

"They have been repaired to the best of our knowledge based on locations identified to date," he said.

Hobson said the problems stem from the fact that

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Police Still Hunting Suspect

By ERIN LEACH-KEMON
Staff Writer

Local police are still trying to apprehend a 27-year-old local man accused of stealing a University of Mary Washington freshman's laptop on Nov. 17 outside of Randolph Hall. Police have described the man as "armed and dangerous."

According to UMW Police Chief James Snipes, the suspect, Spotsylvania resident Dwight Jolly, will be charged with a single count of robbery, though that could change as the police investigation continues. If convicted on the robbery charge, Jolly would face a minimum of five years in prison.

Although UMW police have warned students that Jolly could be armed, Snipes now says that the suspect "did not display or to our knowledge have possession of [a] firearm in the robbery on campus."

The alleged victim, 19-year-old Mary Washington student Tony D'Arnell McGee, reported the incident to campus police on Nov. 17 at 9:13 a.m.

McGee told police that at approximately 8:45 that morning, he was in the Randolph parking lot when a male acquaintance named "DeWhite" drove up and forcibly took McGee's laptop from him before driving away.

Police said McGee was not injured during the incident.

The UMW police report states that the laptop was "taken by force and intimidation," which police explained categorizes the crime as a strong-arm robbery. McGee's Acer laptop is val-

Now Hear This! UMW Installing Loudspeakers, Sirens

By KIM PERNICE
Staff Writer

The University of Mary Washington will begin installation of a \$300,000 area warning system this coming January. School officials say the campus-wide network of loudspeakers and sirens—to be used in emergency situations such as the recent tragic shootings at Virginia Tech—should be in operation by the end of spring semester.

The loudspeakers and sirens will coincide with UMW Alerts, an emergency text-messaging system the school initiated at the beginning of fall semester. School officials say UMW Alerts had a 98 percent successful delivery rate during its most recent test run.

Environmental Health and Safety Director Ruth Lovelace said several different contractors will be installing the equipment, which was purchased

from ADT, a company that sells security systems for homes, businesses and the government.

Students say they will feel safer with this type of security system.

"The system obviously won't be able to completely prevent any disaster from happening on campus, but it's comforting to know that now there will be a better way to protect students," said junior Angela Glynn. "It's good to know that safety and security is a top priority."

Acting UMW President Rick Hurley said he is pleased that the security plan is moving forward.

"I am excited that we are finally at the point where equipment has been ordered and an installation schedule developed," he said in an e-mail interview. "It has taken longer than I hoped it would but understand that we had to 'engineer' the campus to make sure the sirens could be heard every-

where."

Susan Knick, assistant vice president for Public Safety and Community Services, said there will be eight speaker locations—one at the Battleground Athletic Complex, two at George Washington Hall, two at Sampson Library, one at the parking deck and one at the Stafford campus of the College of Graduate & Professional Studies.

The area warning system is intended for outdoor notification and not designed to be heard inside. No speakers will be installed within buildings, according to school officials.

Some students, like junior Sarah Pierson, wonder if the speakers will fit in with the campus decor. However, Knick said that the speakers will not greatly alter the campus's appearance.

"Most of the speakers will be

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► See ROBBED, page 2


**Weekly
Events**
Symfonics Concert

A cappella group in Great Hall
Friday, Dec. 7
Doors at 7:30
\$3 Students
\$5 Non-Students
Featuring University of Pittsburgh Pendulums

Kindred Vale

Bullet Photography Editor Beth Wilkins and Clara Williams Exhibit Photography Tomorrow 5 p.m. - 8 p.m. Sights and Sounds Gallery 915 Lafayette Blvd

Stress Free Zone w/ Free Massages, Food, etc.

Mon., Tues., Wed. of Next Week 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Great Hall Sponsored by OSACS Make Spin Art, Stress Balls, Finger Paint, and more!

Events courtesy of OSACS. If you would like your event listed, contact **The Bullet** at newsxcrew@gmail.com. Send a flyer image if possible.

Want to get involved? Come to a staff meeting on Sunday at 8 p.m. in the Bullet office, located in the lower level of Seacobeck, or contact newsxcrew@gmail.com



Police Beat

By JUSTIN TONEY
Assistant News Editor



Nov. 29- At 10:30 p.m., a female resident of Alvey Hall told police that 20-year-old Travis Allen Davis, of Locust Grove Va., had used foul language and made physical threats towards her over the phone. Officers helped the 18-year-old freshman obtain a warrant against Davis on Friday at 1:40 p.m. for cell phone harassment.

Dec. 1- At 1:54 a.m., campus police received a complaint from a 22-year-old female UMW apartment resident about a party in building 8. Officers accompanied Residence Life staff to the apartment, which held 25-30 students. Some students leapt off of the second-floor balcony after seeing police. Officers found copious amounts of alcohol that only four of the party-goers were able to possess. Although no one was intoxicated enough to require police action, two 21-year-old male residents of the apartment were given administrative referrals for supplying alcohol to minors.

Dec. 1- At 11:58 p.m., Fredericksburg police required the assistance of two University officers in handling a party at the corner of Mortimer and Littlepage Streets involving almost 100 UMW students. While assisting a group of 75 students across Sunken road, an officer noticed a male holding an open beer can. When the officer asked for identification, the man began arguing. Gregory Thomas Novak, an 18-year-old resident of Mason Hall, was arrested for being drunk in public.

Dec. 1- At 11:58 p.m., two students were observed dropping a beer bottle while leaving a party at the corner of Mortimer and Littlepage Streets. The students were stopped while fleeing and told to dispose of the bottle "like responsible adults." Two 18-year-old male and female Russell Hall residents were issued administrative referrals for underage possession of alcohol.

Dec. 1- At 12:55 a.m., an officer patrolling double drive observed an individual fitting the description of a person of interest. The officer approached the man, and asked if he was a UMW student. The man began cursing the officer, claiming "You know who the f*** I am." When another officer arrived, the man continued cursing. The 19-year-old freshman

man commuter student was arrested for curse and abuse, a class 3 misdemeanor.

Dec. 2- At 7:40 p.m., a 20-year-old female commuter student reported to police that an older man had been stalking her outside of her rehearsals in Pollard Hall and Dodd Auditorium. 26-year-old resident of King George county, Eugene Ruffy, was issued a trespass warning.

Dec. 4- At 4:14 p.m., a 20-year-old resident of Custer Hall reported to police that she escorted a man out of her building when he was found trying sell tickets.

Dec. 4- At 6:12 p.m., campus police received a call from the 5th floor of Randolph Hall. A piece of paper was found afire in front of a door with a dry-erase board marked with graffiti. Fredericksburg Arson Squad is investigating the incident.

This article was contributed to by Katy Burnell.

UMW Kid Cops

Students Join Campus Police Ranks

By JESS PIKE
Staff Writer

In early October, UMW senior Laura Hawkins helped catch a convicted sex offender, according to university police, who was reportedly harassing a female student on campus.

Hawkins, who works for the UMW Police Department as a member of the newly-formed Student Escort and Security Program, said she was sitting in Brent Hall, which houses campus police, when a female student called to complain that a man was following her on campus. All regular campus police were on patrol, so Hawkins immediately went to the scene between Madison and Virginia halls where she saw a man who matched the description in the complaint.

Wearing her Campus Security shirt and clutching a police radio, Hawkins stood in the shadows of campus walk near Lee Hall and kept the suspect in sight. She radioed her location to campus police and waited there until UMW Officer Skip Sherry arrived.

The suspect, Christopher Sherry, had a history of prior arrests and convictions for sex and property crimes, according to campus police. Though no charges were filed against Sherry in the campus incident, he was nonetheless barred from campus.

Hawkins was thrilled to have been a part of the case.

"I really enjoy helping secure the campus," she said. "In my opinion the most exciting stuff happens at night."

The incident was by all accounts one of the most exciting for any of the 12 student members of the Escort and Security Program so far this year—their job mostly involves locking down campuses.

Hawkins was thrilled to have been a part of the case.

"They do not have any type of enforcement power although they can question and stop somebody to see what's going on."

According to UMW Police Chief James Snipes, the students' principal contribution is taking care of mundane but necessary tasks required of the po-

lice department.

They clearly illustrate, through their work, that public service is a quality for which they stand.

-Susan Knick

pus buildings at night—but all the students say they're grateful for the opportunity to be involved with campus police.

And campus police say they are grateful in turn to have the student help.

"They are extra eyes and ears for the police department," said Samuels, who supervises the student security detail. "They assist us with any of the police work, they go to the jails with us, they help with search warrants as observers and they record information as we tell it to them."

Samuels was quick to add that UMW police make sure none of the members of the student security detail are directly involved in dealing with criminal matters.

"They are hands-off," he said. "They do not have any type of enforcement power although they can question and stop somebody to see what's going on."

According to UMW Police Chief James Snipes, the students' principal contribution is taking care of mundane but necessary tasks required of the po-

lice department.

"Building lock-ups [handled by] the students free our patrol work from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.," he said. "It allows officers to do more proactive police work."

Snipes said any student is welcome to volunteer; however, the administration can only pay seven paid students at a rate of \$7.50 an hour, and these students are limited to 10 hours of work a week. The five other students currently working with campus police are all volunteers.

Samuels praised the university administration for initiating the program.

"Without President Hurley's help we wouldn't have the funding we got for the students this year," he said. "President Hurley has been supportive of this program from day one."

Samuels said one requirement of the students is that they keep academics as their top priority and don't allow police duties to get in the way.

Laura Hawkins says the members of the student security detail have gotten the message.

"From the very beginning, Sgt. Samuels said that schoolwork comes first, that if we have the exam the next day, we can come in another day," she said. "He is very flexible."

Student working for the Escort and Security Service are required to complete hands-on training with the UMW police department, including successful completion of a University Vehicle Operation Class, as well as training in the procedure for locking academic buildings and proper use of police communications equipment.

To qualify to be a member of the security team, students must be seeking a degree at UMW, maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA and successfully

pass a Criminal History Check.

Student members say they're excited about their opportunity.

"I really enjoy the job," said sophomore Steve Karkos. "People always whine about how they can't do anything to help themselves stay secure on campus. Now they can."

"I plan on being in law enforcement" said Hawkins, "I really enjoy it and I'm really glad that we got to set it up."

All students are issued police radios at the beginning of their shift and have access to the escort van keys, according to Samuels, who also said the students are supervised at all times by a member of the police department.

"We don't allow them in harm's way," he said. "They observe, watch, and call us."

Susan Knick, assistant vice president of Public Safety and Community Support Services, aided in the program's initiation.

"I am proud of the students that have come forward to help," she said in an email. "They clearly illustrate, through their work, that public service is a quality for which they stand. Not only are these students a credit to themselves, but their service reflects great tribute to their families/friends and UMW."

Mary Washington isn't alone in its use of student workers and volunteers helping with campus security.

The James Madison University Police Cadet program, formed in the mid 1970s, has approximately 50 student cadets who work different security functions throughout the JMU campus.

In July 2003, George Mason University implemented a similar cadet program run by campus police comprised primarily of student wage employees.

Student Robbed in Broad Daylight

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used at \$1,300, according to Snipes.

Snipes said that no one else was reported as being in the car with the suspect during the incident.

Jolly is described by police as a black male, 6' 2" tall and 175 lbs with brown eyes, short black hair and a two-inch long scar on his left upper arm.

According to police, Jolly's vehicle is a white Subaru four-door sedan with Virginia license plates and dents and scrapes on the left rear door. The year or model of the car is unknown.

The incident on Nov. 17 was the second time in a 12-hour period in which McGee alleges that Jolly took the laptop.

According to police reports, Jolly contacted Fredericksburg City police on Nov. 17 at 9:26 a.m.—13 minutes after reporting the Randolph Hall theft to UMW police—to report a separate but related incident from the night before.

McGee told city police that on Nov. 16 between 8 and 11 p.m., at an apartment on Wicklow Drive at Fall Hill Apartments, Jolly took McGee's laptop and said that McGee had to give Jolly \$50 to get it back.

Bledsoe said that these two missing components in McGee's statement to police raised questions.

"We're not drawing any conclusions from that but that they are red flags,"

she said. Additionally, Bledsoe criticized some discrepancies in McGee's report to UMW police and Fredericksburg police.

"There's some doubt as to the clarity of these two different reports," she said.

After being informed about the Spotsylvania County Sheriff's warrant for Jolly's arrest, however, Bledsoe said city police reopened their investigation.

As a result, Fredericksburg police announced this week that they now plan on charging Jolly with two felony offenses and a misdemeanor, in addition to UMW's robbery charge against him.

According to Bledsoe, one felony charge is for "robbery by threats, or intimidation, or presenting a deadly weapon," and the second is for extortion, which is taking property or money from another person and requiring monetary payment or property for its return.

The misdemeanor charge against Jolly is for brandishing a firearm, said Bledsoe. Both Jolly and McGee have prior records.

On July 19 Jolly was caught driving without a driver's license and was found guilty and fined for the offense.

He was also cited for operating an uninsured vehicle on Sept. 7 and was

found guilty and charged a fine.

McGee was arrested by Fredericksburg police on Nov. 6 and charged with "defrauding an innkeeper," which is when a customer receives food or lodging without paying.

According to Bledsoe, the incident occurred on the evening of Nov. 5 at Outback Steakhouse in Central Park. An Outback waitress, who is also a UM student, identified McGee as the offender.

McGee is currently on bail pending his next hearing, which is set for Jan. 8, 2008 in Fredericksburg General District Court. McGee was also recently charged with a single count of "curse and abuse," a third-degree misdemeanor, which carries a maximum \$500 fine.

According to campus police, last Friday, McGee shouted numerous profanities at UMW officer Joseph Kauffman after police asked him whether he was a student at the school.

Sgt. Joseph Samuels then handcuffed McGee and put him into the back of a police vehicle until he was calm enough for release.

McGee's will be in Fredericksburg District Court on Dec. 11.

Viewpoints

Staff Editorial

The ill-fated former president of this University has charmed us with a self-serving attempt at vindication in the Outlook section of Sunday's *Washington Post*.

William Frawley spends nearly 2,000 words sharing with us a melodramatic testimonial. He is beyond bitter, enough to be currently writing not one, but two books about his experiences.

As not an only esteemed linguist, but as an adult with common sense, Frawley should realize that his overly-defensive tone not only hurts his cause, but makes him appear exceedingly...childish.

Not once does Frawley make an effort to take responsibility for his actions. His point is self-absorbed and repetitive: He has a problem, none of this is his fault, and the University treated him unfairly.

Frawley regales us with an oddly specific timeline of the events of his two DUI charges. He nonchalantly slips in the minor details of his breakfast of wine and allergy medication as if he was mentioning that he brushed his teeth. He has no shame.

Frawley boldly confesses his history of deep depression, along with the six months he spent in rehab this summer.

The irony of it all is that depression, alcoholism, and similar mental issues are prevalent enough to hit close to home for almost everybody. Most people would and do sympathize with Frawley's condition. However, background and intent do not relieve one of accountability.

Furthermore, publicly pronouncing his illnesses in a nationally-read newspaper only hinders

Frawley's attempt toward recovery and the privacy he claims has been taken away from him.

Personal crisis aside, William Frawley embarrassed our up-and-coming university. Frawley cites several similar incidents at other universities where other scandal-ridden university officials were granted tenure and severance packages—if not let off the hook completely. However, he fails to account for that fact he was the President of Mary Washington for less than one academic year.

It would have hurt our damaged reputation even more to not fire him. As a well-regarded public university, we had no choice but to set an example.

Perhaps the most baffling of all Frawley's defenses is his self-inflicted comparison to Lindsay Lohan.

As Frawley pulls out the old celebrities-get-special-treatment card, he doesn't attest to the fact that it-girl Lindsay Lohan did go to rehab. And jail.

Seriously, what was the last movie she was in? Her career and image were hardly, to use Frawley's word, "houshished."

Perhaps Frawley is really just jealous of Lohan's continued exposure after the fact. His essay comes across as not a request for help, but a request for attention.

William Frawley has said enough. He needs to break his defenses and transfer his efforts into redeeming himself through recovery and accomplishment.

Even fresh-outta-rehab Lohan has moved on to bigger and better projects than defending herself. Perhaps Frawley should cut an album with 50 cent as well.

Action on Diversity will Continue

A message from Acting President Richard Hurley:

Before everyone leaves for the Holiday break I want to update you on efforts being made in the aftermath of the Unity March and my report to the community following the incident in Jefferson.

As promised, the Advisory Committee on Diversity and Community Values (ACDCV) has been working diligently on a Bias Incident Policy and reporting procedure. Dr. Sabrina Johnson, our Assistant Vice-president for Human Resources has been coordinating this effort and, in addition to the meetings and discussions with ACDCV, has been consulting with colleagues at other institutions in an effort to produce the best product we can.



At least two drafts of the proposed policy have been reviewed by the Core Planning Group (the University's vice-presidents) and a third draft is being put in final form. My goal has been to get this policy out to the campus before the Holiday break and I would still like to do that, but I will not rush its development. It is far more important to get the policy right than to meet a self-imposed deadline. Regardless, the policy will be completed and announced by the beginning of the spring semester if not before.

We have also been hard at work answering the question many of you have heard me ask, which is where do we go from here or what are the appropriate next steps following the S.E.E.D forum and Unity March. To that end, we have concluded that we should hire a consultant to do an internal "environmental scan" of the campus community in an attempt to assess our climate for inclusiveness.

We expect this work to begin shortly after the beginning of the spring semester and will use the results of that report to determine the next steps.

I appreciate your patience as we work through this matters and look forward to working with all of you next semester.

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the Bullet

Editor in Chief
Will Coppers

Serving the University of
Mary Washington
Community since 1922

Letter and Editorial Policy

The Bullet is always eager to receive letters to the editor and guest columns, and every effort is made to print them.

Letters should be submitted the Monday before publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words, and must be typed in either 12 or 14 point font.

We will not publish anonymous submissions. Letters must include a phone number and address for purposes of verification. They can be mailed to *The Bullet* at 1701 College Avenue, Fredericksburg, VA, 22401-4666, delivered to our office in Seacock Hall or sent to our e-mail address at bullet@umw.edu.

Opinions expressed in columns or letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views of the staff. Contact *The Bullet* at 540-654-1133.



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Next Year, Put Away The Plastic

BY JANE CLARK
Guest Columnist

Need a New Years' resolution for 2008? While single-handedly saving the world may not be a viable goal, there are several easy things all of us can do to reduce our carbon footprint and help slow down our effect on the environment.

By now, anyone paying attention knows that walking, biking and taking public transportation are great alternatives to driving, and taking the train is preferable to flying. We've all had the three Rs memorized since grade school (reduce, reuse, recycle) and traded in our incandescent light bulbs for low energy compact fluorescent light bulbs last month.

Despite the wonderful changes many people have made, many are still going through large amounts of plastic packaging, bags and bottles everyday without thinking anything of it.

Back to the original question...here's one idea: reduce your use of plastic and take care to recycle what you do use.

Recall the famous scene from *The Graduate*, when Mr. McGuire tells Benjamin, "There's a great future in plastics." That may have been good advice for a recent grad forty years ago, but today there are many compelling reasons to get out of plastics.

The problem with plastic is that once it enters the environment, it simply does not go away. The North Pacific Subtropical Gyre, and vast area where air and ocean currents create a stationary natural depository for flotsam and waste, is collecting more and more plastic. Previously most waste in this area biodegraded, but plastic does not, it "photo-degrades" into particles which small organisms at the base of our food chain, such as jellyfish, then eat. This area has earned some impressive names like The Great Garbage Patch, the Pacific Trash Vortex, or variations thereof.

While there is no way to really measure the extent of this patch, and no proof to the popular claim that this plastic "island" is twice the size of Texas, it is certainly significant, and growing. Captain Charles Moore, a leading researcher of the problem, recently measured six times more plastic than plankton in the gyre. The federal and some state governments are

taking steps to help reduce the problem, but while they are caught in red tape there are changes we can begin now.

One of these changes is to stop, or at least reduce, your use of plastic bags. Stores send customers away with several plastic bags per trip, often doubled for heavy items, and some of you probably have a shelf stuffed full of bags or a big and noisy stash hanging from your closet doorknob. Don't throw those out!

Most supermarkets have a bin near the entrance where you can toss them to be recycled. Then pick up a few cheap canvas bags, or a large wicker basket. Most grocery stores, including Giant, have even started selling reusable bags and offer a few cents discount for every reusable bag a customer uses. Those cents add up and if your shopping habits are similar to mine, you would save about ten dollars a year, and remove hundreds of plastic bags from trash dumps.

Another easy way to reduce your plastic use is to stop or limit your purchase of bottled water. According to chrisjordan.com, Americans use 2 million plastic beverage bottles every five minutes. Many Americans keep a large pack of bottled water at home, and are not aware of the monetary and environmental costs of packaging and transporting these bottles. Transporting heavy bottles takes a lot of fuel, and some studies have found that bottled water is not well regulated and can contain contaminants.

What's wrong with tap water? Okay, in some areas it should be avoided, but water filtering systems are inexpensive and convenient. Pair a filter with a sturdy water bottle (wash it with soap and water often) and you could save a lot of cash.

Want more information? Just head online and you will find dozens of great sources and ideas for little things you can start doing today to help keep the earth healthy for future generations. Try the Natural Resources Defense Council, Paper Nor Plastic, or for some shocking statistical photojournalism, Chris Jordan's "Running the Numbers" exhibit, available online.

Jane Clark is a senior.

Viewpoints

Sexclamations

By Kelsey Clark, Staff Writer

'Tis the season to be jolly! (fa la la la la....)



'Tis also the season for getting cozy under the mistletoe, and "Sexclamations" would be remiss in its duties if it didn't give you some helpful hints for a satisfying holiday season.

Regardless of your religious affiliation or your status on the naughty or nice list, this is a

time of celebration.

In addition to your festive flings, there are usually gifts involved. You may want to consider bumping the deluxe edition of "Hairspray" from your wish list to make room for some more sex-friendly items.

Not that John Travolta in drag wouldn't put anyone in the mood, it's just that there are better ways to really enjoy your vacation.

I'm not talking about sex toys or wild lingerie or anything quite so overt. There are things that can improve your snowy sexcapades that you don't have to be embarrassed about asking Santa for.

For starters, chapstick is an absolute necessity in the winter, and since they have a tendency to lose themselves, it's not unreasonable to have a backup supply. The dry winter air does everything it can to make your smacker less supple, and nothing's more uncomfortable than kissing with chapped lips.

You want to be sure you can smooth satisfyingly all winter long, so make sure you're keeping your lips luscious with a protective balm.

Whether you're just holding hands or using your extremities for more graphic activities, soft

hands are ideal and hard to maintain in the dry weather. Hand lotion will help keep your fingers supple and silky so they're ready to be comfortably used for anything you have in mind.

In addition to keeping your lips and hands moisturized, the rest of your body needs plenty of lubrication. Take that how you will.

One way to keep the rest of your body, inside and out, as perfectly pliable and pleasing as your hands and lips is with water! Drinking water may not seem like the sexiest method to get your body in shape for a winter tryst, but its benefits are endless. I'm sure you've heard the powers of water extolled enough times to believe that it's actually good for you, so ask for a water bottle this holiday and start drinking!

Once you're all hydrated and smooth, you'll want something equally soft against your skin. Perhaps someone else who's taken all this advice?

Or if you're not so lucky to have someone so well educated on moisturizing in your life, you can settle for some flannel sheets. Not only do relatives seem to really love giving flannel as gifts, it's the perfect accompaniment to your jolly winter romps.

When you're finally all settled in to your seductively hydrated state, soft as can be and wrapped in festive flannel, it's time to set the mood. You're on your own for techniques at this point, but just a few suggestions that make easy gifts and provide amorous ambience: candles, aluring flannel PJ's to go with your sheets, or any Marvin Gaye album ever.

If none of that gets you ready for romance, then just ignore all my advice and spend the rest of your winter break watching "Hairspray" alone. Who needs hydration to lure a lover when you have bubbly dance numbers to keep you company?

Have a safe and satisfying vacation, Mary Washington!

Susannigans

Santa Claus, Superstar

By Susannah Clark, Viewpoints Editor

I still believe in Santa Claus.

I used to pray to Saint Nicholas nightly, being the ever-faithful five-year-old I was. My agnostic/Unitarian/secular/labels-are-for-conformists upbringing left me with only one concept of God:

Kris Kringle, the omnipotent I am, in all his plus size glory.

He saw me when I was sleeping, he knew when I was awake. Winter, spring,

summer and fall, I endeavored to be good for goodness' sake. When I sinned, I silently asked Santa for forgiveness. Letters and prayers were composed months in advance. Santa was my all-powerful provider of hope; a selfless, superhuman who delivered blessings in the masses, mostly in the form of an Easy-Bake-Oven or Tonka truck.

I was consumed with awe, fear, and unyielding faith. Santa was not only real, he was almighty.

"I still believe in Santa Claus," I said, "but I'm not sure if he exists." "Well, I still believe in Santa Claus," he responded. "But I'm not sure if he exists."

It was eight years old the day the caroling died. After a slip of the tongue from my mother, my false idol-worship was finally revealed to me. No Susannah, there is no Santa Claus.

I cried for days. My faith was gone, my rock had crumbled. Life was meaningless.

Jumping ahead ten years, I found myself going to church and learning about this Jesus character on my own time. I found "God." I believed in something again.

Despite being labeled as "born-again," I've come to the conclusion that I was born right the first time.

The faith I had in Santa Claus is the exact same passionate reverence I now attribute to God. It's a different name for the same thing. I appropriately quote Shakespeare's now clichéd creed, "What's in a name?" The bread of Christ smells just as sweet as Santa's half eaten cookies on Christmas morning. Both are the fruits of a leap of faith.

With the exception of the whole Mess-

siah and resurrection deal, St. Nick and Jesus Christ are not worlds apart. Not only are there thousands of songs written about the both of them, but their overall message is the really same: have faith in the unbelievable, and be kind to others.

I may not have been raised a Christian, but I was born with the capacity to believe and to have compassion. As all humans are.

As we enter the holiday season and are bombarded with materialism and political correctness, we forget that it is indeed the season to be jolly. Whether you worship Jesus, Allah, Santa, or Tom Cruise, in the end we all want the same thing: peace on earth and goodwill toward men.

Though the fundamentals and politics of religion prevent those things from completely coming true, perhaps we can step back this season and consider the idea that maybe these different Gods, creation stories, and moral guidelines are all just different names for the same thing.

Even after years of sardonic comments to my parents every Christmas Eve, I still find myself not only leaving milk and cookies for Father Christmas but also pouring flour in front of the fireplace to capture a footprint or two. And we mustn't forget a carrot for the reindeer.

Despite being told "the truth," in my head and heart, I still believe in the spirit of St. Nicholas.

After referencing Shakespeare, I must quote another homosexual wise man—Albus Dumbledore:

"Of course it is happening inside your head, Harry, but why on earth should that mean that it is not real?"

It matters not the validity of what you believe in, but rather the wisdom, strength, and generosity you gain from those beliefs.

So have yourself a merry little <your holiday preference here>

And Santa bless you all.

Enough with the "Dark Secrets"

The following letter was written in response to "Homoeobics" (That's What She Said, The Bullet, Nov 30, 2007):

Dear Editor:

In Tierney McAfee's "That's What She Said" commentary in last week's *Bullet*, we had yet another case in current society of telling people what their sexuality is.

Her thesis is that "we've all got a little gay in us," and that her evidence for this in male athletes is the towel-whipping, butt-slapping, cup-checking, and various other raucous tomfoolery that goes on in many locker rooms and similar situations. She takes issue, therefore, with the predominant attitude of homophobia in the jock subculture, and sees it as hypocritical.

She mentions that some of these guys say "No homo" as they play around like this. But she clearly is unwilling to believe them. She is participating in an obsession our society has with exposing a dark secret within everyone, and one manifestation of this is claims that individuals are gay or lesbian based on observable "evidence."

I say "dark" secret because there is always the accusation that this person is intentionally hiding this inclination, and that he

or she wants it to remain in the dark. One sees this kind of biased interpretation when a literary critic will find what he or she calls homosexual undertones in poems, when the author was never openly homosexual or was not known to have intimate same-sex relationships.

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The problem is that while actions speak louder than words, we are known by our actions and not our intentions. Meaning is the truth.

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In other words, it may look "gay," but why can't you believe us when we say it ain't?

Thomas Roberts is a junior.

BY ANDY DRAKE
Guest Columnist

The following column is written in response to "Broadway is Dark Tonight," (Susannigans, The Bullet, Nov 30, 2007):

Let me be the first to say that the writers' strike sucks.

I die a little inside every time a Thursday passes without a new episode of "The Office" and the thought that great new shows like "Pushing Daisies" might get canceled to save the studios some money is truly disheartening. That said, I'm with the writers one hundred percent.

Although striking over unpaid internet revenues may seem petty to some, I'm going to go out on a limb and say that workers' rights are more important than finding out what happens to Jim and Pam. Comparing the proliferation of online media to the folk movement is a faulty metaphor on every level.

First of all, folk artists put their work on the internet because they choose to, not so the corporation that pays for their guitar strings or paint brushes can make a few extra bucks. Another factor to consider is that most of these shows have already been on the internet for years, the only difference being that anyone who watches them now doesn't risk an expensive lawsuit.

We should also be careful when saying that some labor movements are inherently more important than others. Although their work may not be physical, Hollywood writers work very long and hard hours to make shows as good as they are. Although the rise of corporations and an increase in union busting has managed to keep the number of major strikes down, workers rights in this country are still fairly abysmal. Hopefully the Writers Guild strike will inspire other mistreated and underpaid workers to stand up for what's rightfully theirs.

I agree that there should be much more protests against the war and other pressing social issues, but I'm not sure exactly how that is the fault of labor activism. I don't see why we can't support workers' rights and the anti-war movement, I do.

Writers are some of the most important people in Hollywood and also the most underrated. The fact that they've been able to shut things down the way they have just shows how important they are. They're out there 365 days a year making sure that we don't have to do boring things like read books or go outside.

If there's a few months of no new TV while they work things out, that's fine with me. There's still about 200 hours of *Law and Order* reruns I haven't seen, so yeah, I'm good.

Andy Drake is a senior.

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Entertainment

Entertainment's Guide to Holiday Alternatives: Holiday Music and Movies for the New Generation

By MATT ELLIOT
Staff Writer

Are you having trouble getting festive this holiday season? Are you tired of the same old Christmas carols and Christmas movies that come on television every holiday season? For those of you that want to celebrate the holidays this year but are dying for some variety this Christmahanukwanzza, the Entertainment section would like to offer some suggestions to help celebrate the holidays.

Movies

Everybody has seen "It's a Wonderful Life," "Christmas Story," and "Charlie Brown's Christmas." However nostalgic or commemorative these classics may be, it is time to make some Christmas classics for a new generation.

"A Christmas Carol" is such a great Christmas story, but Ebenezer Scrooge can really kill a good egg nog buzz. 1988's "Scrooged" with Bill Murray is a hilarious take on Dickens' classic that follows a cynically selfish TV exec (Murray) who is haunted in a manner similar to old Mr. Scrooge.

If you have built up tension from shopping or if you find the holiday season inspires a need to watch a slasher film, "Black Christmas" is the movie for you. The 2006 version, which is gory yet less suspenseful than the 1974 original, could be just the thing for those of you that need a release during the season or that feel watching sorority girls get hacked apart on Christmas Eve is the best way to be festive.

If you're going to be spinning a dreidel or drinking some Manischewitz during December, Adam Sandler's "Eight Crazy Nights" is a hilarious movie full of Sandler's wild character's and humor that



Image courtesy of allocine.fr

follows a young man cynical about the Festival of Lights who rediscovers the meaning of the holidays. The movie sports hilarious guest voices from Saturday Night Live.

If lighting advent candles and decorating your Christmas tree bring out your bad side, first of all, you should probably re-evaluate your life, second of all, you should watch "Bad Santa." In this dark comedy, Billy-Bob Thornton plays an alcoholic Santa con man who teams up with his fellow elf to rip off a shopping mall run by John Ritter, in his last film appearance.

Music

If you are full of egg nog, fruitcake, and Nat King Cole's "Christmas Song," grab some Colt 45, throw out the yule log and burn some Christmas trees instead with Afroman on his holiday album, "A Colt 45 Christmas."

With a mix of Christmas carol parodies and original songs, Afroman is to his normal hijinks with songs like "Afroman is Coming to Town" and "The 12 J's of Christmas." If you want a Christmas album your parents probably won't enjoy, this one is for you.

For those hip-hop heads that can't bear to tear their ears away from bass-thumping and rhyme-spitting gangsta-ness, there are a couple mainstream Christmas rap albums that could pimp Santa's sleigh and give his elves a posse-chant to sing while they build toys.

"Christmas on Death Row" is an urban Christmas album with a mix of Christmas rap and R&B renditions of classic carols. Tracks like "Santa Claus Goes to Ghetto" and "Party 4 da Homies" reassure the listener that even rappers can celebrate the holidays while keeping it gangsta at the same time.



image courtesy of brooklynvegan.com

If you aren't feeling quite that rebellious with your musical tastes, Sufjan Stevens' released an excellent alternative Christmas album with a more traditional feel. "Sufjan Stevens: Songs for Christmas" sports 42 songs, some class carols and some written by Stevens himself. If you are already a fan of Stevens, then you will love this intimate Christmas album that could easily become a favorite for future generations.

If none of these suggestions prove to help you celebrate this holiday season, here is one last bit of advice. Go to wherever you call home this holiday season, and cook a holiday recipe with your family. Nothing helps the holiday season "set in" better than some holiday baked goods. Cooking can allow you to spend much-needed time with your family at home, where everyone belongs during the holidays.

Kindred Spirits Display Photographs

By AARON RICHARDSON
Entertainment Editor

Seniors Clara Williams and Beth Wilkins have been friends since high school. They studied photography under the same teacher in high school, and now they culminate their college careers with a joint photography exhibit. Williams and Wilkins will open their exhibit "Kindred Vale" at Sights and Sounds on Lafayette Boulevard on Friday, Dec. 8.

The show will feature film-format photographs the two have taken over their tenure at Mary Washington. No digital work will be in the show, as the two prefer the medium of film. "The physicality of the film, paper and developing chemicals creates an intimate process that I feel lacks in digital works," Williams said.

"What I love about photography is the artist's ability to show the subtleties in life that he or she finds beautiful, grotesque or whatever emotion

they feel regarding their subject," Williams said.

Adding to Williams' comment, Wilkins said, "I knew that I wanted to document people and impact the people the way the photos had impacted me."

Williams also said she was inspired by world-renowned photographer Sally Mann, who claims the same hometown as Williams. "She actually



image courtesy of Beth Wilkins

photographed my birth, so sometimes I joke around that she influenced me from day one," Williams said.

After college, the two have different plans. Wilkins says she will continue to pursue photography, even if it means homelessness.

"I guess I'll just be a bum on the street and make collages out of other people's photography," she said. Williams said

that photography would have to "take a back burner" in order for her to get through graduate school.

The show has been in its planning stages all semester, but has been in the cards for a long time. "In some ways you could say the show has been brewing since we shared a locker and didn't talk to each other in 11th grade," Wilkins said. The connection between Wilkins and Williams is what makes the opening moving.

"I think having the show at the end of my time at Mary Wash is even more moving because I get to exhibit with Clara and we have known each other since high school. To me, that's more important than being the 'end of time' just because we've shared so much together and a lot of our photos are influenced by each other and where we grew up," Wilkins said.

Williams added, "To see your artwork hanging in a gallery creates a sense of legitimacy and fulfillment; it's the last step in a long process."

Top 5 Ales for the Holidays: The Good, The Bad and The Nasty

By CHARLOTTA JARBORG
Staff Writer

1. Blue Moon - Full Moon Winter Ale

While their pumpkin concoction was a swing and a miss, this cleverly titled brew hit a home-run. The Colorado based Coors brewing company did a great job on their normal version of this Belgian Pale Ale style, and this Christmas flavor delivers. My tasting panel agreed that the mix of

spices and caramel gave it a nice, warm holiday feel. If Yankee Candle took one of their holiday candles and turned it into a beer, this would be it. And we mean that in a great way. The snowy label will

make you smile every time you open your fridge door, provided your stash lasts that long. Annoying relatives staying with you this Christmas? Nothing a little Blue Moon Full Moon cannot handle.

2. Samuel Adams - Old Fezziwig Ale

Who can resist the charm of such a name? Just to use that name in your answer when your friends ask what you are drinking is reason enough to include this beer in your holiday social gatherings. With the first sip you are transported back to Dickensian times, sitting by a blazing fire while Tiny Tim fetches more wood as you kick back with a seasonal pint of Fezziwig. Sam Adams definitely captured the holiday spirit with essences of orange peel, cinnamon and ginger. No fireplace at home? No biggie, just pop in your favorite Christmas movie, have

a Fezziwig and that will bring on the holiday cheer.

3. Blue & Gray Brewing Co. Christmas Cranberry Ale - Blue

As Mary Wash is located in Fredericksburg, it would be a shame not to take a piece of the Burg with you as you go back home for the holidays. Of all the berries, cranberry is the Christmas berry and this flavorful beer proves an excellent source. This fairly dark brown beer with Christmas crimson glints has a fruity taste with a hint of caramel. The sugary effect of caramel balances out the tartness of the cranberry making it quite a drinkable beer, although perhaps not in huge quantities. The tasting panel agreed that they

would not drink this beer on a regular basis, but for the holidays we could consider it to be an after dinner ale perhaps instead of dessert?

4. Samuel Adams - Holiday Porter

The rest of the year, you could certainly agree that Sam Adams is "always a good decision." Just in time for Christmas, the New England brewery released a



sonal flavored ales. So is the "Holiday Porter" good enough to last you through the holidays? My tasting panel and I thought it had somewhat of a strange aftertaste; however it does improve after a couple of sips. Then again, is that not the case with all alcohol? As intoxication increases, taste buds die. Some research on the aptly named site <http://beeradvocate.com> revealed that this beer has a taste of roast chocolate, which probably explains the creaminess we tasted, which one normally does not associate with beer. Chocolate lovers, look no further for your holiday booze fix.

5. Blue Moon - Pumpkin

A slight warning to all Blue Moon fans, as festive and interesting as this beer sounds - it ends up being pretty disappointing. At first we expected it to have the flavor shot of pumpkin pie (the king of all pies this holiday season), which could be pretty delicious. However, rather than opting for the sweet version of pumpkin, this beer just tastes like straight up...pumpkin. As if you broke off a piece of the one you carved or heaven forbid, smashed, this Halloween and had a nice little chew along side your Blue Moon. We decided to go ahead and say nay to this one. Good idea, poor execution.

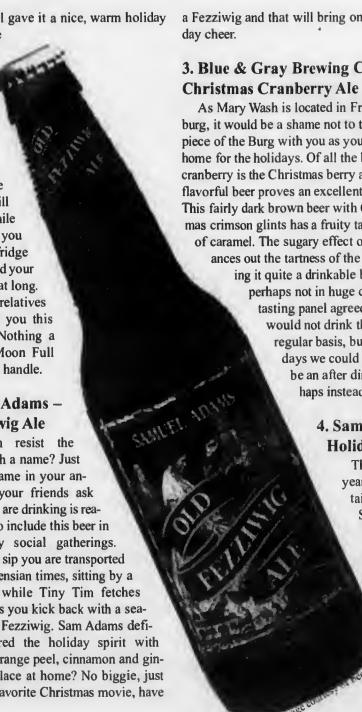


Image courtesy of beercrush.net



Image courtesy of theage.com

Viewpoints

Sexclamations

By Kelsey Clark, Staff Writer

"Tis the season to be jolly! (fa la la la....)



"Tis also the season for getting cozy under the mistletoe, and "Sexclamations" would be remiss in its duties if it didn't give you some helpful hints for a satisfying holiday season.

Regardless of your religious affiliation or your status on the naughty or nice list, this is a

time of celebration.

In addition to your festive flings, there are usually gifts involved. You may want to consider bumping the deluxe edition of "Hairspray" from your wish list to make room for some more friendly items.

Not that John Travolta in drag wouldn't put anyone in the mood; it's just that there are better ways to really enjoy your vacation.

I'm not talking about sex toys or wild lingerie or anything quite so overt. There are things that can improve your snowy sexcapades that you don't have to be embarrassed about asking Santa for.

For starters, chapstick is an absolute necessity in the winter, and since they have a tendency to lose themselves, it's not unreasonable to have a backup supply. The dry winter air does everything it can to make your smacker less supple, and nothing's more uncomfortable than kissing with chapped lips.

You want to be sure you can smooth satisfactorily all winter long, so make sure you're keeping your lips luscious with a protective balm.

Whether you're just holding hands or using your extremities for more graphic activities, soft

hands are ideal and hard to maintain in the dry weather. Hand lotion will help keep your fingers supple and silky so they're ready to be comfortably used for anything you have in mind.

In addition to keeping your lips and hands moisturized, the rest of your body needs plenty of lubrication. Take that how you will.

One way to keep the rest of your body, inside and out, as perfectly pliable and pleasing as your hands and lips is with water! Drinking water may not seem like the sexiest method to get your body in shape for a winter tryst, but its benefits are endless. I'm sure you've heard the powers of water extolled enough times to believe that it's actually good for you, so ask for a water bottle this holiday and start drinking!

Once you're all hydrated and smooth, you'll want something equally soft against your skin. Perhaps someone else who's taken all this advice?

Or if you're not so lucky to have someone so well educated on moisturizing in your life, you can settle for some flannel sheets. Not only do relatives seem to really love giving flannel as gifts, it's the perfect accompaniment to your jolly winter romps.

When you're finally all settled in to your seductively hydrated state, soft as can be and wrapped in festive flannel, it's time to set the mood. You're on your own for techniques at this point, but just a few suggestions that make easy gifts and provide amorous ambience: candles, aluring flannel PJ's to go with your sheets, or any Marvin Gaye album ever.

If none of that gets you ready for romance, then just ignore all my advice and spend the rest of your winter break watching "Hairspray" alone. Who needs hydration to lure a lover when you have bubbly dance numbers to keep you company?

Have a safe and satisfying vacation, Mary Washington!

Enough with the "Dark Secrets"

The following letter was written in response to "Homoeconomics" (That's What She Said, The Bullet, Nov. 30, 2007):

Dear Editor:

In Tierney McAfee's "That's What She Said" commentary in last week's *Bullet*, we had yet another case in current society of telling people what their sexuality is.

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or she wants it to remain in the dark. One sees this kind of biased interpretation when a literary critic will find what he or she calls homosexual undertones in poems, when the author was never openly homosexual or was not known to have intimate same-sex relationships.

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Susannigans

Santa Claus, Superstar

By Susannah Clark, Viewpoints Editor

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Entertainment

Entertainment's Guide to Holiday Alternatives: Holiday Music and Movies for the New Generation

By MATT ELLIOT
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Everybody has seen "It's a Wonderful Life," a "Christmas Story," and "Charlie Brown's Christmas." However nostalgic or commemorative these classics may be, it is time to make some Christmas classics for a new generation.

"A Christmas Carol" is such a great Christmas story, but Ebenezer Scrooge can really kill a good egg nog buzz. 1988's "Scrooged" with Bill Murray is a hilarious take on Dickens' classic that follows a cynically selfish TV exec (Murray) who is haunted in a manner similar to old Mr. Scrooge.

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Music

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Image courtesy of brooklynvegan.com

If you aren't feeling quite that rebellious with your musical tastes, Sufjan Stevens released an excellent alternative Christmas album with a more traditional feel. "Sufjan Stevens: Songs for Christmas" sports 42 songs, some class carols and some written by Stevens himself. If you are already a fan of Stevens, then you will love this intimate Christmas album that could easily become a favorite for future generations.

If none of these suggestions prove to help you celebrate this holiday season, here is one last bit of advice. Go to wherever you call home this holiday season, and cook a holiday recipe with your family. Nothing helps the holiday season "set in" better than some holiday baked goods. Cooking can allow you to spend much-needed time with your family at home, where everyone belongs during the holidays.

Kindred Spirits Display Photographs

By AARON RICHARDSON
Entertainment Editor

Seniors Clara Williams and Beth Wilkins have been friends since high school. They studied photography under the same teacher in high school, and now they culminate their college careers with a joint photography exhibit. Williams and Wilkins will open their exhibit "Kindred Vile" at Sights and Sounds on Lafayette Boulevard on Friday, Dec. 8.

The show will feature film-format photographs the two have taken over their tenure at Mary Washington. No digital work will be in the show, as the two prefer the medium of film. "The physicality of the film, paper and developing chemicals creates an intimate process that I feel lacks in digital works," Williams said.

"What I love about photography is the artist's ability to show the subtleties in life that he or she finds beautiful, grotesque or whatever emotion

they feel regarding their subject," Williams said.

Adding to Williams' comment, Wilkins said, "I knew that I wanted to document people and impact the way the photo had impacted me."

Williams also said she was inspired by world-renowned photographer Sally Mann, who claims the same hometown as Williams and Williams. "She actually



Image courtesy of Beth Wilkins

photographed my birth, so sometimes I joke around that she influenced me from day one," Williams said.

After college, the two have different plans. Wilkins says she will continue to pursue photography, even if it means homelessness.

"I guess I'll just be a bum on the street and make collages out of other people's photography," she said. Williams said

that photography would have to "take a back burner" in order for her to get through graduate school.

The show has been in its planning stages all semester, but has been in the cards for a long time. "In some ways you could say the show has been brewing since we shared a locker and didn't talk to each other in 11th grade," Wilkins said. The connection between Wilkins and Williams is what makes the opening moving.

"I think having the show at the end of my time at Mary Wash is even more moving because I get to exhibit with Clara and we have known each other since high school. To me, that's more important than being the 'end of time' just because we've shared so much together and a lot of our photos are influenced by each other and where we grew up," Wilkins said.

Williams added, "To see your artwork hanging in a gallery creates a sense of legitimacy and fulfillment, it's the last step in a long process."

Top 5 Ales for the Holidays: The Good, The Bad and The Nasty

By CHARLOTTA JARBORG
Staff Writer

1. Blue Moon - Full Moon Winter Ale

While their pumpkin concoction was a swing and a miss, this cleverly titled brew hits a home-run. The Colorado-based Coors brewing company do a great job on their normal version of this Belgian Pale Ale style, and this Christmas flavor delivers. My tasting panel agreed that the mix of

spices and caramel gave it a nice, warm holiday feel.

If Yankee Candle took one of their holiday candles and turned it into a beer, this would be it. And we mean that in a great way. The snowy label will make you smile every time you open your fridge door, provided your stash lasts that long. Annoying relatives staying with you this Christmas? Nothing a little Blue Moon Full Moon cannot handle.

2. Samuel Adams - Old Fezziwig Ale

Who can resist the charm of such a name? Just to use that name in your answer when your friends ask what you are drinking is reason enough to include this beer in your holiday social gatherings. With the first sip you are transported back to Dickensian times, sitting by a blazing fire while Tiny Tim fetches more wood as you kick back with a seasonal pint of Fezziwig. Sam Adams definitely captured the holiday spirit with essences of orange peel, cinnamon and ginger. No fireplace at home? No biggie, just pop in your favorite Christmas movie, have

a Fezziwig and that will bring on the holiday cheer.

3. Blue & Gray Brewing Co. Christmas Cranberry Ale - Blue

As Mary Wash is located in Fredericksburg, it would be a shame not to take a piece of the Burg with you as you go back home for the holidays. Of all the berries, cranberry is the Christmas berry and this flavorful beer proves an excellent source. This fairly dark brown beer with Christmas crimson glints has a fruity taste with a hint of caramel. The sugary effect of caramel balances out the tartness of the cranberry making it quite a drinkable beer, although perhaps not in huge quantities. The tasting panel agreed that they would not drink this beer on a regular basis, but for the holidays we could consider it to be an after dinner ale perhaps dessert?

4. Samuel Adams - Holiday Porter

The rest of the year, you could certainly agree that Sam Adams is "always a good decision." Just in time for Christmas, the New England brewery released a couple of sea-



sonal flavored ales. So is the "Holiday Porter" good enough to last you through the holidays? My tasting panel and I thought it had somewhat of a strange aftertaste; however it does improve after a couple of sips. Then again, is that not the case with all alcohol? As intoxication increases, taste buds die. Some research on the aptly named site http://beercravate.com revealed that this beer has a taste of roast chocolate, which probably explains the creaminess we tasted, which one normally does not associate with beer. Chocolate lovers, look no further for your holiday boozie fix.

5. Blue Moon - Pumpkin

A slight warning to all Blue Moon fans, as festive and interesting as this beer sounds - it ends up being pretty disappointing. At first we expected it to have the flavor shot of pumpkin pie (the king of all pies this holiday season), which could be pretty delicious. However, rather than opting for the sweet version of pumpkin, this beer just tastes like straight up...pumpkin. As you break off a piece of the one you carved or heaven forbid, smashed, this Halloween and had a nice little chew along side your Blue Moon. We decided to go ahead and say nay to this one. Good idea, poor execution.



Image courtesy of beertrash.net



Image courtesy of theage.com

Entertainment

UMW Males Strut Stuff for the Crown

By CATHERINE WILSON
Staff Writer

Dodd Auditorium sizzled on November 28 as over a couple hundred Mary Washington students watched the finest men of Mary Washington compete for the coveted title of Mr. UMW.

Hosts Alyssa Lee and Sean O'Brien introduced the representatives for this year's competition: Jake Mitchell, Mr. Bushnell; Thomas Johnson, Mr. Apartments; James Waikles, Mr. Alvey; Jake Farinoli, Mr. Ball; Frank Devor, Mr. Framar; Stephen Harrison, Mr. Jefferson; Brent Cavedo, Mr. Marshall; and Joe Cirenza, Mr. Willard.

Patrick Connelly, Mr. Mason; Nate Delano, Mr. Randolph; Colin Monks, Mr. Russell; Steven Karkos, Mr. South; Peter Morrison, Mr. Westmoreland; and Joe Cirenza, Mr. Willard.

All gathered on stage for the opening group dance, during which the men leapt, spun, and even leap-frogged across the stage to the Backstreet Boys.

The following act consisted of the men showing off their remarkable and sometimes unique talents.

Mr. South chose to perform a magic trick, and before starting announced, "I've been performing this trick since I was three, and it's recommended for ages three to seven." He then proceeded to pin the tail on the donkey.

Mr. Mason was rewarded with thunderous applause as he lip-synched and break-danced across the stage. He concluded his performance by moon-walking backwards off the stage.

Perhaps most noteworthy for its uniqueness was Mr. Alvey's unique performance of a song he wrote about a robot uprising. Dressed in a black garbage bag, he performed the song on the piano and was accompanied by robot dancers in cardboard boxes and

orange recycling bags.

Other performances included a dramatic recital of "The Tell-Tale Heart" by Mr. Ball, Mr. Randolph's speed-reading of Dr. Seuss' "Green Eggs and Ham," and Mr. Willard's river-dancing.

Concluding the talent portion of the competition was Mr. Apartments, who decided to take the opportunity to clear up some misconceptions about himself.

Walking around the stage with a microphone in hand, he admitted that around campus "I'm known as the white guy with dreadlocks." Following this confession, he performed a song that he had written about "the hair you choose to wear."

The sportswear portion of the competition revealed the men's favorite sports and activities. Among those represented were tennis, weightlifting, cross-country, lacrosse, soccer, and even scuba diving.

However, the two contestants who received the most applause were Mr. Bushnell, who appeared on stage in a bathtub which he then ripped off, revealing that he was clad in only two Frisbees strapped around his waist with duck tape, and Mr. Apartments, who strutted, or rather staggered, across the stage dressed as Captain Jack Sparrow.

By the time the Question and Answer section of the show rolled around, only five contestants were left: Mr. Alvey, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Framar, Mr. Randolph, and Mr. Apartments.

Mr. Marshall was asked to name which room at Seacobeck best described him. He responded that he would have to choose the Faculty dining room "because no one really knows what goes on in there."

When asked what song would describe his life most appropriately, Mr. Framar promptly and assuredly responded that it would most definitely be the classic, "Eye of the Tiger."

Asked who he would date if given the opportunity to date with anyone, Mr. Randolph answered 'Alyssa Lee,' which earned him major points with Lee - who unfortunately was not judging.

Mr. Apartments was asked if he could earn any loved one, what song would he sing and which loved one? He replied that he would sing for his mother, and because she would be pleased with whatever he sang, he would sing "We Want the Funk."

The judges for this event included Dean Rucker, Sarah Goodrum, Stephen Gregg III, and Mary Pilger. Each act of the competition had its own criteria

for judging. The talent portion was judged on originality, audience appeal, and execution.

The Sportswear and Evening wear sections were determined by attire, originality, poise, and audience appeal.

The final act, Question and Answer, was based on the contestant's confidence, thoughtfulness, originality, and elocution.

Mr. Alvey was awarded third place in the competition, Mr. Framar second place, and Mr. Apartments was crowned Mr. UMW.

"This has been so much fun like in high school, and I guess in college too. I've enjoyed getting to meet all the dudes - it was an immediate, quick bond," said Thomas Johnson, the 2007-2008 Mr. UMW.

In his parting words to the audience, he urged, "If you take one thing from this night, don't let the man get you down!"



"No Country for Old Men" is a Coen Brothers Gem

By CRAIG GRAZIANO
Staff Writer

Anton Chigurh (the villain of "No Country for Old Men") has a Prince Valiant haircut and a pressurized oxygen tank which he uses to blast holes in anything he wants to. What he most frequently uses the tank on are locked doors and peoples' heads.

What Chigurh (Javier Bardem) lacks in conscience however, he makes up for in fierce determination, and he will not rest until he gets a hold of the \$2 million he lost in a heroin deal that went sour.

Though filmmakers Joel and Ethan Coen

best known for their neo-noir crime films, generously peppered with Western elements and surreal comedy, this character is more akin to the horror genre, yet it manages to work in the duo's latest, 2007's "No Country for Old Men."

Lewellyn Moss (Josh Brolin) stumbles across the bloody aftermath of the drug deal, takes the money-filled briefcase and tries to make a better life for himself and his wife by escaping their trailer park and settling anew. This is until he realizes his role in the grimdest game of cat-and-mouse this side of the Rio Grande.

Tommy Lee Jones' character, a sheriff looking to save Moss, is the true protagonist, though he sees little action.

His conflict is not the fact Chigurh is simply a murderer; he has already dealt with those. It is Chigurh's very existence as a man who repeatedly kills without any remorse that bothers him. Chigurh treats murder and chaos as a solution to the simplest obstacles in his life.

When Chigurh stops using the oxygen tank to kill, he switches to a shotgun with a silencer, which gives a squeal more terrifying than an ordinary shotgun blast.

To get medical supplies, he blows up a car in front of the pharmacy, walks to the back of the store and has his own personal shopping spree. When he speaks, it is in a mechanical Southern accent, with few words and little emotion.

Audiences should keep track of Bardem in future films, for he has portrayed the most memorable serial killer since Anthony Hopkins in "Silence of the Lambs" (1991).

How fitting it is that the Coen Brothers have come full circle by making a tight and darkly comedic crime epic set in 1980s Texas, just as they did with their stunning debut "Blood Simple" (1985).

The duo has furthered the possibilities of American crime films, though in recent years they had gotten soft.

Recent projects had ranged from the beautifully incomprehensible "The Man Who Wasn't There" (2001) to an absolutely unnecessary remake of "The Ladykillers" (2004). With this movie, it appears that audiences have weathered through the worst.

All of their trademarks are intact. When Moss returns to the crime scene to collect the leftover heroin, he is chased by faceless thugs in a pickup truck.

He eludes them by jumping into the river, but their vicious dog leaps right in after him. Sure, the animal is in a frenzy to tear him apart, but there is something bizarrely funny about the dog's head popping out of the water, calmly following Moss all the way down the river until the chase can resume. It is a strange intermission of unrelenting fear and chaos. The ability to derive laughter from such a frightening situation is a rare gift.

Dialogue is wildly important in all Coen films, as it also generates humor and builds character.

Their best bits are often in an eloquent rural dialect that you can hear in "Raising Arizona" (1987) or "O Brother, Where Art Thou?" (2000).

Tommy Lee Jones and Woody Harrelson both manage to breath life into those cordial lines, which were adapted from the Cormac McCarthy novel of the same name.

When Harrelson's character is asked how dangerous Chigurh is, confusion momentarily sets in before he replies, "Compared to what? The bubonic plague?"

When the chase is on, this film works splen-



didily. It is the final 20 minutes when Jones grapples with his age and his inability to keep up with Chigurh's unthinkable acts that the movie takes a turn into existential questions and will probably lose some audience members.

The calculated pacing drops out in the final act and what started as precise scenes of violence and strategy becomes fuzzy moralistic questions with few clear answers.

Then again, real life is pretty fuzzy too.

"No Country for Old Men" may leave some in a lurch, but it is still one of the finest movies of the year and a return to form for the brothers Coen.



Image courtesy of portuguese.imdb.com

Feature

UMW Alum Dodges a Bullet

By TIERNEY McAFFEE
Features Editor

One morning last January, UMW alumnus Drew Bambrick woke up to find three masked men in his bedroom.

Bambrick, who lives alone in a house in the Village of Idlewild, thought that the intruders were just his friends playing a trick on him, but the nine millimeter handgun pointed at his head proved otherwise.

"I was really in shock. It was one of those disbelief kinds of things," Bambrick said. "Like, 'I can't believe this is actually happening.'"

Bambrick later found out from police officials that this was the first time in five years that someone had been robbed at gunpoint in Fredericksburg.

After they were sure Bambrick was awake, the trio repeatedly warned Bambrick that the gun was real. They also asked if Bambrick wanted them to shoot a hole in the floor to prove that it was loaded.

Bambrick declined.

After tying Bambrick's hands and legs together with a telephone charger cable, the men proceeded to search his house.

Bambrick said that the robbers told him they broke into his home because they heard there was a large quantity of drugs kept there. When they couldn't find any, they took Bambrick's car keys, watch, money and breathalyzer instead.

Bambrick estimates that the youngest man was about 18-years-old, while the oldest was around 26. Even though the men were armed,

Bambrick said that he was not afraid of them.

"You could tell by the way they acted that they weren't going to do anything," Bambrick said. "They were just three young guys who looked like they could have been my friends. I know kids who look and talk just like them."

For the next 20 minutes, Bambrick sat on his bed while one of the men watched him. Bambrick said that the man even let him look at the gun after he asked politely.

"That part was so weird," Bambrick said. "When it was happening, I was like this is going to be the craziest story later."

When the other robbers returned, they made Bambrick lie down on the bed while they covered him with a blanket.

"That was the worst part about the whole thing," Bambrick said. "I didn't like the blanket because I couldn't see what was going on."

After the men left, Bambrick was able to cut his ties and call the police. He then found his cell phone, which the robbers agreed to leave behind, under a pile of clothes in his closet.

Bambrick said that about four or five detectives and ten police officers responded to his call. The police found little evidence and were unable to catch the robbers.

"On principle, it bothers me that they didn't get caught," Bambrick said.

Bambrick, whose parents own the Idlewild home, said no one else was in the house during the robbery, but his friend, alum Jaclyn Gebbia, had left just an hour before.

"My biggest concern was Jaclyn," Bambrick said. "I was really grateful that she wasn't there for it. When I think about it, it was the best-case scenario for a robbery. A million different things could have been worse."

Although Bambrick said he wasn't traumatized by the incident, he is now more careful about locking the doors to his home.

"If it happened to me again, people would just call me an idiot," he said.

Bambrick said that the worst blow came a week after the robbery took place.

"The bastards took all my liquor," Bambrick said.

"I wanted to sit down and have a glass of gin and I realized it was all gone. Isn't that a kick in the nuts? Who does that?"

Photo courtesy of fairgun.com



Students Select Best Bites Downtown

By KATHRYN SAUNDERS
Staff Writer

By the second week of the semester, the average student isn't too keen on stomaching another Nest tuna sandwich. Despite the large number of restaurants in downtown Fredericksburg, too many students turn to Ramen and Chinese food. By now, everyone has realized that adding hot sauce to your Easy Mac isn't gourmet, so why not head downtown instead to enjoy a little

more of a fine dining experience? All of the restaurants are student-friendly and easy on the wallet.

- The least pricey restaurant on the list, Basil's Bistro, is located in the Galleria at 909 Caroline Street and serves Italian and pizza. Entrees range from \$4.95 to \$7.25.
- Junior Emily Sack regularly visits Basil's for pasta and stromboli.
- "The strombolis are delicious because you choose your own fillings," Sack says. "It is big enough for two meals and really affordable."
- Basil's also offers handmade pizzas for \$8.75 to \$16.75 for a large, specialty pie.

J. Brian's Tap Room, at 200 Hanover Street, serves up relatively inexpensive, but quality food. J. Brian has a regular dining room and a tap room that serves beer and wine.

Sophomore Jessica Hedrick recommends the restaurant for its relaxed atmosphere, good service and fun décor. The menu consists of appetizers like quesadillas, burgers, sandwiches, and more expensive items like lamb. The restaurant does not allow groups to split bills however, which could be a problem for large groups. Diners range from \$14.75-\$21.00, with cheaper sandwiches and appetizers.



- Poppy Hill Tuscan Kitchen offers slightly more expensive but more authentic Italian food. Poppy Hill is upscale enough to visit with parents or on a date, but still affordable and casual enough for an occasional visit.
- Lunch sandwiches and entrees cost as little as \$5.50, while dinner entrees range from \$11.95 to \$28. The menu features a plethora of pasta and seafood entrees in addition to fancier foods such as mushroom galette and veal chops. Poppy Hill is on the corner of Charles and William streets.

For healthier choices, Sammy T's on Caroline Street is popular with locals and students. Everything on the menu is made from scratch, with an emphasis on natural ingredients and vegetarian food.

"There aren't many restaurants that have such a wide and interesting variety of vegetarian selections" said sophomore Laura Pilati. Sammy T's serves other options for meat-lovers too like burgers, fried oysters and crabcakes, in addition to vegetarian and vegan fare like black bean cakes and vegetable lasagna. There is a bar downstairs, as well as a separate non smoking section upstairs. Entree prices range from \$4.00 to \$17.00.

Thumbs Up...Thumbs Down...



Holiday dinners



Finals



Regifting



Getting Regifted

Circus Club Takes Center Ring at UMW

By SADIE HAGBERG
Staff Writer

While most of us were busy juggling classes, work, and extracurriculars last semester, a small group of students were gathering for their own kind of juggling - circus juggling.

Last spring, several students created the UMW Circus Club. The club, which has 15 members, meets weekly to participate in circus-related activities.

"We are always looking for new members who want to develop interesting skills and have fun while doing it," said Mike Mosley, the club's president.

Mosley said the group wanted to get together and share their knowledge about performance acts while learning new things themselves.

"We started the club as an excuse to hang out together and get new skills," said Mosley.

Mosley said that the group likes to focus on a different activity every meeting.

"One of our goals as a club is to set up a sort of 'skill swap' atmosphere, where if one person is really good at juggling they can teach anybody who wants to learn, and the next week somebody else can teach them how to ride a unicycle or do a handstand," he said.

Prospective members don't need any previous background or knowledge in circus performance acts to join the club.

"All skills are welcome," Mosley said. "We're happy to teach anything we know."

The club recently hosted a series of workshops with a professional French performer named Anthony Nicolas. Nicolas taught the members how to walk on stilts, ride unicycles, juggle and do acro-balance, or acrobatic balancing, which is essentially one person lifting another.

After the group acquires new skills, they perform them for an audience.

"We've got a couple of performances lined up for the spring semester, but we're always looking for excuses to break out our stilts and juggling balls," Mosley said. "Right now we are looking for opportunities to perform around campus and around Fredericksburg."

Circus Club meetings are held every Thursday at 9 p.m. in Great Hall.



Photo courtesy of Jupiterimages.com

Foreign Students Find Their Way Around Fred

By KAELIN MAYHEW
Staff Writer

What shocked University of Mary Washington foreign exchange students the most when they came to the United States wasn't the food or the music or even reality television—it was our shoes.

"In Korea we take off our shoes every single time we're inside," said Shin-hae Kim, a Korean exchange student who spent the semester at UMW.

In accordance with Korean culture, it is polite and expected to take off your shoes whenever you are inside a building, be it someone's home, a school or even a restaurant. The UMW foreign exchange program is in full swing this year, with the largest group of exchange students being from Korea.

Along with tackling a new language, the students have had to deal with a new and different educational system.

"The classes are smaller and the students participate a lot more," said Eun-Ju Shin, another Korean exchange student.

But Shin prefers at least part of the American learning system to the Korean one.

"One thing I really like is that we can talk to each other in class more casually," Shin said. "In Korea, we have to respect our professor and can't talk as freely."

Shin and Kim came abroad to experience American culture. Both girls say their friends at UMW consist of students from their exchange program and their roommates.

"At first I was a little shy," Shin said. "But now I want to make more friends here."

Classes have proven difficult for the exchange



Courtesy of Eun-ju Kim

Korean exchange students Shin-hae Kim, Eun-ju Shin and Jung-Min Yu after taking the Honor Pledge.

students, mainly because of the language barrier. Kim cites Global Issues in Literature as her hardest class.

Though they find the public speaking assignments and class participation particularly difficult, the women are not discouraged.

"The tutoring program is very helpful," Shin said.

The pair has even begun to join clubs and organizations such as Club Tennis, Inter-Varsity and the Asia Students Association.

Shin and Kim are from Seoul, the capital of Korea, so they have had to adjust to living in a smaller city as well as a foreign country.

"In Korea, we'd go to the clubs, the theater, eat out or go to a museum," Shin said. "It's a very big city. At first we didn't do much on the weekends here, but now we are starting to go to Central Park or the mall."

After just one short semester at UMW, the exchange students are ready to return home with many valuable lessons and experiences.

THAT'S WHAT SHE SAID...

By TIERNEY McAFFEE
Features Editor

I <3 the 80s (but only cause I have to)

Ah, the 80s, our mother decade. Most of us 80s babies—along with the rest of the country—look back in shame at the era that birthed us. And it doesn't take glasses that cover 70 percent of your face to see why—our mom is a cheesy, acid-washed mess of mullet, shoulder pads and Coreys. She rocks out to the Thompson Twins, wears spandex to dinner and blames gay people for AIDS. I'm embarrassed just thinking about her, but let's phone home to Mom and see what else she has to offer.

Although most of us were fresh out of the womb for the majority of the 80s, its culture still lives on today—in the form of reality TV. But the 80s were so much more than Bret Michaels and Ozzy Osbourne. They were the good old days when Prince was a name and not a symbol, Michael Jackson was still relatively black and Madonna was like a virgin...wait, that can't be right.

Teased hair, eyeliner and tight leather pants were in vogue for men, while women were buzzing their hair and donning neckties. I'm convinced the entirety of the 80s took place in the proverbial closet. One side-by-side look at Boy George and Prince reveals the virtual impossibility of distinguishing gay from straight.

So, conveniently, the gay and lesbian community didn't have to hide because the men were already in the closet rifling through their mother's jewelry and ruffled blouses, while the women



Photo courtesy of allposters.com

were slipping into Dad's suits.

Our lady of the 80s may not have the most refined taste in duds, but at least she isn't strapping on three-inch heels to iron and bake pies à la the ultra-traditional, painfully square Mother 50s. Don't let our cross-dressing mom's legwarmers fool you, she's no slouch when it comes to progress—in fashion and in forward thinking.

Mama 80s is nothing if not funky, anything but boring and everything we were born into. All things considered, she wasn't so bad—unless you mean bad in a good way. I wouldn't trade her in for any other mom in history.

POPSHOT

The prosthetic make-up Jim Carrey wore in *How The Grinch Stole Christmas* took 3 hours to apply. Carrey felt so confined and uncomfortable in the latex skin that he sought counseling from a Navy SEAL, who taught him torture-resistance techniques.

Pop Quiz: Which actor narrated the movie?

Answer: Anthony Hopkins

Happy Holidays
from your
buddies at
The Bullet!

(And goodbye
from Tierney)

News

Copyright Law Clubs Clubs

By KAT SAUNDERS
Staff Writer

Showing movies just got a whole lot more expensive for a number of UMW campus groups.

In the past, many school clubs and organizations simply rented or purchased movies to show members for entertainment or discussion.

Now, however, concerned about possible copyright violations, the Office of Student Activities and Community Service is reminding campus clubs that they must also purchase film rights as well—costs that can range from \$200 for foreign films to as high as \$900 for domestic blockbusters.

Fines for violating copyright law can run as high as \$30,000.

French Filiques, a club devoted to the study and appreciation of French cinema, was one of the first groups contacted about possible copyright violations, and had to request additional funds in order to buy the rights to screen

the group's final movie for fall semester, "Paris, Je T'aime."

"Before the Spring semester we plan on meeting with finance committee again to request a new budget that will reflect our projected expenditures for the viewing license," said French Filiques President Laura Ryerse. "Will our club run normally? Time will tell, especially this coming semester."

According to U.S Copyright law, it is illegal to publicly play videos licensed for home viewing. Fair use laws allow videos to be publicly viewed for educational, non-profit purposes, but according to OSACS officials, that doesn't include student groups—a point made clear in the OSACS Student Organization Policy Handbook, which states on page 28, "No student organizations may publicly show a movie for an event or program without purchasing the movie from a licensed film distributor."



Ryerse, however, said that OSACS officials two years ago told her group that purchasing film rights wasn't required, as long as French Filiques bought the films rather than renting them, and as long as the group could assure OSACS that the screening would be for educational purposes. None of

the current OSACS officials were employed by UMW prior to this year.

"[I] and my fellow officers were under the impression that the previously mentioned 'OSACS-approved' guidelines were standard operating procedures for film clubs," said Ryerse. "French Filiques was always under the impression that our club functioned legitimately and adhered to copyright laws," she said. "All four French Filiques officers take issues of copyright infringement very seriously."

OSACS Associate Director Stephen Thomas contacted French Filiques and other student groups in early October to advise them that they were in violation of the Fair Use policy, and that student groups who wanted to show films would have to buy film rights through another campus group, Cheap Seats Cinema.

"All clubs have been made aware of the copyright laws and so they should

all now be following it," said Thomas.

Cheap Seats Co-Chair Gabriella Arellano said that it is important for all clubs to contact OSACS and her club in order to ensure they are not violating any laws.

"They need to do it. However, all I can do is explain the rules to them," she said. "They know what they are risking."

Arellano said that clubs concerned with film costs can contact the student Finance Committee or look into co-sponsoring events with other clubs to save money. She also said that Cheap Seats may have its budget expanded to help other clubs afford movie viewings.

The Cheap Seats current budget is \$45,000, most of which goes to buying film rights for their weekly screenings of popular films.

Clubs concerned about copyright violations can contact Cheap Seats Cinema at films@umw.edu

\$12.5 Mil Fails to Fix Roof

LEAK, page 1

Melchers has a flat membrane-covered roof that is prone to occasional leaks due to wind-driven rain and thermal expansion/contraction.

The recent flooding occurred two months after the school spent \$1.1 million to renovate Melchers Hall.

The renovation project began as soon as classes finished in Spring 2007, and ended the weekend before classes started this fall semester.

The main focus of the project was to replace the three rooftop air handling units with two larger and more energy efficient air-handling units to ensure proper ventilation and minimize odor migration from the various art studios in the building.

Hobson, who supervised the Melchers renovations, said he believes that some of the recent leaks were indirectly attributable to the foot traffic and work that occurred on the roof to replace the rooftop air handling units.

In addition to replacing the rooftop air handling units, contractors also relocated the sculpture studio, painting studio, drawing studio and the print studio within Melchers Hall over the summer.

Additionally, the computer lab was expanded, and a dust collection system was added outside the building to support the equipment in the sculpture studio.

Art Department chair Dabb said she and others were pleased with the renovations.



Tiles missing due to water leak through the ceiling in a Melchers art studio.

Beth Wilms/Bullet

project that is left to complete," says Dabb.

According to Dabb, an outdoor welding facility will be attached to the back of Melchers and is scheduled to be built this summer.

Carole Garmon, associate professor of Art and Art History, has been advo-

cating the welding building for the past six years.

The projected welding facility will increase the number of art classes made available to students.

Dabb said she hopes that metal, welding and casting classes will be available for the next academic year.

Former Pres Writes In

FRAWLEY, page 1

received over 200 e-mails—all but 10 of them positive—from as far away as China in response to what he intended to be an explanation, not a defense, of his actions. He plans to respond to every e-mail.

"I wanted only one thing: to tell the facts fully, openly, and honestly. Everything in that piece is the absolute truth," he said.

It took Frawley 19 drafts to write the truth, and it took the Post three additional drafts to perfect it. He told *The Bullet* that his original piece, which was much longer, was titled "Mary Washington and Me."

The focus of Frawley's piece centers on Mary Washington's handling of what he calls his "April meltdown."

"For 45 years, I had self-treated a case of undiagnosed depression with compulsive work and, lately, alcohol," Frawley wrote. "New heart problems and allergies added to the mix, as did the stress of separation from my family, which remained in Maryland."

Frawley criticized the administration's response, which he said was undertaken "with no apparent consideration for my illness or my record and no support for my family's transition to a new life."

He was arrested twice in April 2007 on three charges relating to drunk driving, once in Fairfax, and again in Fredericksburg the following day.

His first arrest occurred April 10, when he totaled a UMW-owned vehicle on his way to a meeting in Rockville, Md.

Bethesda. Frawley said that he was anxious on his way out the door that morning, and he decided to self-medicate.

"To calm down, I drank some wine (after taking allergy medication) before I got on the road," Frawley said.

A few hours later, Fairfax Police discovered the semi-conscious 52-year-old in a flipped vehicle near an exit off I-495. Frawley's blood alcohol level was .21, two times the legal limit, according to court documents.

After a brief stint in Inova Fairfax Hospital, Frawley drove to Fredericksburg at 1 a.m. He showed up in G.W. Hall the next morning for work, where concerned staff members advised him to return home.

"I drove to horse country, parked, took in the scenery and drank again," he said. "On the way home I hit a pothole and blew out a tire but continued on, sleepless and disoriented."

Frawley later told police that he had consumed six bottles of NyQuil, according to the officer's report filed after his arrest in the driveway of Brompton.

Fredericksburg Police received a tip about a swerving vehicle with three tires crossing the Chatham bridge.

"Thankfully, someone noticed my erratic driving and called police, who surely thought I was in a case heading into...well, the UMW President's driveway," Frawley said.

Frawley was found guilty on two counts in September. He faces an additional court date Jan. 4 stemming from an accident that occurred this summer in Rockville, Md.

According to his Post column, the Board of Visitors terminated a severance package negotiated through a mediator one month after his convictions.

Frawley told *The Bullet* that he has yet to receive an explanation for the Board's actions.

"All details were totally agreed on by both sides, and the agreement text has been finalized in writing and sent to my attorney by the [Attorney General's] representative himself," Frawley said.

UMW's representative in the State Attorney General's office, Jack Knight, was not available for comment.

Frawley said that this was the second time the Board had walked away from a settlement. He negotiated a severance package with the Board in the weeks following his arrests, which he says was taken off the table on the same day it was offered.

"I was instantly left with no salary or benefits, no severance, no tenure. Our zero-tolerance times have seemingly produced zero tolerance for tolerate," Frawley said.

Frawley compared the treatment he received at the University's hands to the experience of other embattled administrators at institutions of higher education, such as the former President of American University, Benjamin Ladner.

Critics of the former President's column have raised the issue that this comparison is not appropriate considering that Frawley's tenure at UMW is far out-shadowed by long-term Presidents such as Ladner.

Rector Poole said that the duration

of Frawley's employment did not, and would not influence the Board's decision to terminate Frawley.

"The time he was here has nothing to do with it. His actions were what led to our decision," Poole said.

Frawley told *The Bullet* that he has not been keeping tabs on online critics' reaction to his column.

"Blogs are sometimes used as opportunities to be vicious, unnecessarily laudatory, and, whether good or bad, truly defying," he said.

"Sometimes people use a blog to brag to other people that they are writing something," he continued.

Frawley told *The Bullet* that he currently volunteers to teach math, geography and English to bi-lingual fourth-graders in a low-income housing project.

"My Spanish is very good, so I can maneuver the context well. They are great kids," he said.

He also told *The Bullet* that he is continuing to seek treatment for his medical matters, and has recently recovered to a point that permits him to speak publicly about his situation.

"Some parts of anyone's recovery can never be cured, only managed. I am fully healthy now and ready to resume my work," he said.

He is currently writing two books, one he titled *The Bullet*, is about his academic career, "the rise to a presidency, the calamity and its aftermath, the lessons learned and how you remake a life."

The other book focuses on the future of higher education, "a short book of radical ideas for the next 50 years."

Alerts

ALERTS, page 1

mounted on rooftops so they will not be obviously visible," Knick said in an email interview. "For the battlefield and CGPS locations, blending in with the landscape and location will be done to the best of our abilities."

In a recent campus-wide e-mail, Teres Mannix, director of News and Public Information, explained how the new system will be deployed.

"Alert UMW will only be used in life-threatening emergencies," she said. "We want to ensure that when an Alert UMW notice goes out, it is received as something out of the ordinary vs. routine, and therefore is given immediate notice and response by recipients."

During the most recent test run of UMW Alerts, officials sent out 5,169 test warning messages; 111 were "non-deliverable"—a 98 percent successful delivery rate. According to school officials, no single mobile carrier was responsible for all the non-deliverable messages.

Many other Virginia schools have also taken precautionary measures to secure their campuses.

Virginia Tech, the University of Virginia, Christopher Newport University and Longwood University all employ mobile notification system that sends emergency text messages and emails, while only Longwood has installed a loudspeaker system like UMW's.

As of Nov. 20, 2007, there were 2,425 subscribers to UMW Alerts with 5,462 devices, such as pagers, cell phones, e-mail accounts and blackberries, registered to receive alerts.

To subscribe to UMW Alerts visit <http://alert.umw.edu>

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Sports



Courtesy Erin Richardson

Senior Erin Richardson competes with "Spritz" in an equestrian competition. Richardson has been riding since age 9.

Team of the Week

Women's basketball earns the title this week after staying undefeated after beating CAC rival Hood College 63-18.



Athlete of the Week

Sophomore Matt Cash set a new school record for indoor track this past weekend running the 800 meters in 1:55.77.

Rider Becomes One With Horse

Senior Erin Richardson Competes At Top Of Mary Washington's Equestrian Team

By LAUREN BOSTON
Staff Writer

When Erin Richardson rides, there's a connection with her horse that can't be denied.

"You have to know what your horse is thinking and feeling, and tell him in the right way what you want him to do and how to do it," she said.

The senior began riding when she was nine years old after making the weekly trip to the barn with her older sister, and has competed in countless competitions ever since.

Richardson was raised in Powhatan, Va., a rural county west of Richmond, and says riding is a "family thing."

The studio art major owned a horse in high school and now rides several different horses as part of the University of Mary Washington equestrian team.

During her career at UMW, Richardson has gone to regional and zone finals every year, and made the leap to Nationals last year. Individual awards include high point rider and reserve high point rider at several different shows.

But for Richardson, it's all about the thrill of

I love the connection between horse and rider and the rush you get when you have a great jump, course or ride in general.

-Senior Erin Richardson

the sport.

"I love the connection between horse and rider and the rush you get when you have a great jump, course or ride in general," she said.

At UMW, Richardson competes as an open rider, both flat (non-jumping) and fences (jumping) classes. She also rides in the adult hunters and

equitation at home.

With so much experience under her belt, Richardson has been no stranger to a scare or two along the way.

"I've fallen and been fallen on quite a few times; that's the nature of the sport," she said. "The worst injury I've had was a knee sprain from being fallen on by a horse."

In addition to the inevitable safety risks, taking care of the horse, lessons, training, clothes, tack and show travel fees make for an expensive sport.

Still, Richardson says there's always a pay-off.

"I think the best was winning first in my class at Zone finals last year," she said. "It was so exciting and it got me my ticket to Nationals. Going to Nationals was great too."

When the water sports enthusiast isn't competing, she's practicing at Hazelwild Farm in Spotsylvania.

Senior teammate Lauren Campbell said Richardson has always been a key member of the UMW team.

"She contributes so much to the team both competitively and socially," she said. "She helps all of our new and lower level riders do their hair for the horse show so it is perfect under their helmets. She always welcomes the team to her house for team dinners. She planned Krispy Kreme fundraising for the team."

Richardson may be the team cheerleader, but she's just as strong of a competitor. She is currently third in region for high point rider, behind by only five points.

As a rider, Richardson often competes with horses she's never ridden before. Responding to the horse appropriately, she says, can be a real challenge.

"It's physically hard, but the mental part is what's the most challenging because that's harder to train for," she said. "It's hard to get everything right."

Despite all the hard-work that's involved, riding is something that will always be important to Richardson, who wants to go to architecture or interior design school after graduation.

"It's a family thing and a culture, and it just becomes a part of your life," she said.

The Good, The Bad & The Ugly

By GOVINDA AVASARALA
Staff Writer

Nothing announces the end of a year more than final exams, papers, and the Victoria's Secret fashion show. Because a year's worth of sports is difficult to wrap up in the limited space my editor gives me, I'll attempt to get a semester's worth in. So drop your Starbucks, put down that Business Research Methods text-book, turn off Nip/Tuck and pay tribute to the winners and losers of the Fall 2007 semester.

The "Seriously, Just Shut Up" Award: Boston Sports Fans

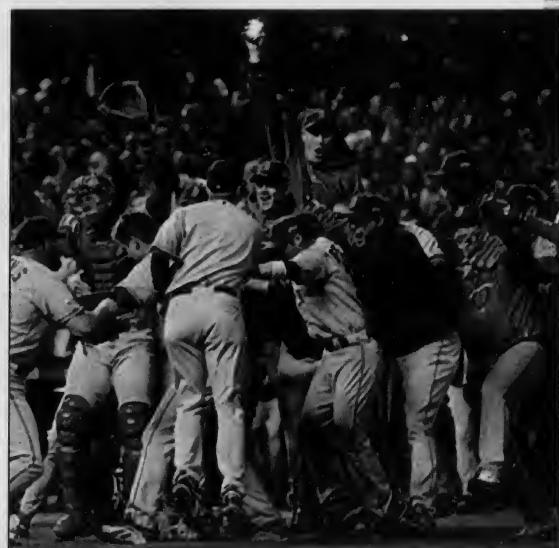
OK. We get it. All of your sports teams are dominating their respective leagues. You guys drink a lot. You have Manny Ramirez. Awesome. But if I have to continue hearing every thirty seconds about how the Red Sox are poised to dominate the next thirty years of baseball or that the Patriots are on their way to being the best sports team of all time, I might just go Zinedine Zidane

on somebody and head butt them. Seriously.

It's understandable what Bostonians have to be happy about. The Patriots and their leader Bill "Darth Vader" Belichick have dominated the NFL in a manner unseen since the Cowboys of the mid-1990s; the Red Sox (the New York Yankees of the 2000s) just won their second World Series in three years; the Boston Celtics have brought in a big three reminiscent of the times of Bird, Parrish, and Walton; and even the Boston Bruins are performing relatively well (or so I'm told, I wasn't sure the NHL was still played in the United States). However, regardless of their success, it would be pleasant to see a Boston fan who can watch sports and demonstrate more class than Kevin Federline, which I'm not quite sure is possible right now.

The Team Most Likely to Have their Own Soap Opera by Year's End: The New York Knicks

Did that really happen? Did the Knicks' star



Courtesy redsox.mlb.com

► AWARDS, page 11 The Boston Red Sox celebrate their 2nd World Series win in only three years.